70 Collier Street
P.O. Box 400
Barrie, ON L4M 4T5

City of Barrie

Minutes - Final

International Relations Committee

Tuesday, October 5, 2021 | **6:00 PM** | **Virtual Meeting**

For consideration by the Finance and Corporate Services Committee on October 19, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Chair, D. Morrison 6:01 p.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

Present: 18 -
Chairman D. Morrison - Arras France
Deputy Mayor B. Ward
Lieutenant Colonel J M Brault - Base Borden
Vice Chair M. Sachkiw - Japan Twinning
J. Babcock - Youth Ambassadors
C. Cudmore - Arras France
T. Gardiner - Japan Twinning
I. Jodoin - Arras France
L. Lalonde - Arras France
J. Laking - German Twinning
L. LeRoux - The Borough of Harrogate
R. LeRoux - The Borough of Harrogate
H. Noguchi - Japan Twinning
J. M. Pigeon - German Twinning
B. Sergeant - The Borough of Harrogate
K. Shirakura - Georgian College
S. Scully-Pratt - Youth Ambassadors
R. Warman - German Twinning

Absent: 5 -
B. Brookes - The Borough of Harrogate
R. Gardiner - Japan Twinning
G. Johnston - Japan Twinning
L. Palson - Georgian College
P. Sachkiw - Japan Twinning

STAFF:
Committee Support Clerk, T. Maynard
Supervisor of Enterprise Applications, J. Mastroianni.

COMMITTEE BUDGET

Dave Morrison, Chair provided an update concerning the Committee's budget. He reminded the Committee members to submit their International Relations Committee expenditures prior to December 31, 2021.

BARRIE INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS WEBSITE

Ciaran Byles-Ho provided an update concerning the Barrie International Partners Website. He provided the Committee a live demonstration of the website. Mr. Byles-Ho advised that the website will be in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disability Act (AODA).

Dave Morrison, Chair requested that the subcommittees of International Relations Committee review the content of the website and provide any feedback to himself or Ciaran Byles-Ho. Mr. Morrison advised that he anticipates the website to be completed by November, 2021 with plans for a soft launch to occur in 2021 and a complete roll out in 2022.

John Mastroianni, Supervisor of Enterprise Applications advised he will work with staff in Human Resources Department to ensure the website meets the AODA requirements and City's policies.

Mr. Morrison thanked Ciaran Byles-Ho for all his hardwork creating the website.

JAPAN TWINNING UPDATE

Mark Sachkiw advised that there is no report concerning Japan Twinning.

YOUTH AMBASSADORS UPDATE

The Committee met and discussed the status of the Youth Ambassadors Programs as follows:

Murayama, Japan

Shannon Scully-Pratt advised that there is no report concerning Murayama, Japan.

Zweibrücken, Germany

Jamie Babcock provided an update regarding the Global Perspectives Program at Innisdale Secondary School. He advised that in light of the COVID-19 pandemic that the Simcoe County District School Board has paused in making any decisions related to students travel to and from Zweibrücken, Germany.

HARROGATE, NORTH YORKSHIRE UNITED KINGDOM UPDATE

Bill Sergeant provided an update regarding Harrogate, North Yorkshire United Kingdom. He advised that no response has been received from the Rugby Club in Harrogate, North Yorkshire United Kingdom concerning an exchange between the two municipalities. He advised that they are going to start considering other types of sport leagues or music groups.

Mr. Sergeant advised he would contact the Barrie Secondary Schools to determine if there is an interest in pursuing a youth exchange with Harrogate, North Yorkshire United Kingdom.

Mr. Sergeant explained that 2023 will mark the 10th Anniversary of the signing of the twinning certificates between the City of Barrie and Harrogate, North Yorkshire, United Kingdom. He mentioned that to mark the occasion, there are tentative plans to host a delegation from Harrogate in 2023.

Mr. Sergeant provided an update regarding banners to hang in downtown Barrie during Remembrance Day and to represent the City's twinning/partnership. He mentioned that he has been working with staff in Access Barrie concerning the banners.

GERMAN TWINNING AND GERMAN CANADIAN CLUB UPDATE

Rob Warman provided an update regarding Zweibrücken, Germany. He advised that tentative plans are to send an adult delegation from the City of Barrie to Zweibrücken, Germany between May 7 to May 12, 2022 with a reciprocal visit scheduled in fall 2022.

Mr. Warman advised that they are planning for a commemorative bench to be installed in the vicinity of the Southshore Centre in 2022 to mark the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the City of Barrie's twinning relationship with Zweibrücken, Germany.

ARRAS, FRANCE UPDATE

Dave Morrison, Chair advised that there is no report concerning Arras, France.

Cathy Cudmore advised that unfortunately the staff member from Barrie North Collegiate is no longer able to participate with upcoming youth exchanges with Arras, France. She noted that she is currently searching for another staff member at the school to take her place.

SIR ROBERT BARRIE PROJECT

Bill Sergeant provided an update regarding the Sir Robert Barrie Project.

Mr. Sergeant advised that on September 17th, 2021 a motorcycle club of Canadian army veterans from London, Ontario, presented a donation the Royal Canadian ensign that flew on the HMCS Barrie ship during World War II to the City of Barrie on behalf of Mrs. Norma Jean.

Mr. Sergeant discussed plans for the ensign which includes a formal presentation to City Council in 2022.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

CHAIRMAN